U.S. Department of Education Office of Communications & Outreach, Press Office 400 Maryland Ave., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20202

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS MORE THAN \$9.7 MILLION TO HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Twenty six colleges and universities will be able to develop and strengthen their emergency management plans as a result of more than \$9.7 million in Emergency Management for Higher Education discretionary grants awarded today by the U.S. Department of Education, with assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

"Sending your children off to college can be difficult enough, but you shouldn't have to worry about their safety and how well a campus is prepared to handle emergencies," U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said. "These grants will ensure that campuses have the resources to develop comprehensive emergency plans that involve the community."

Each plan, as specified in the grant application, must address all four phases of emergency management: Prevention-Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery. Funds may be used to update existing emergency management plans, conduct vulnerability assessments of campus facilities, provide training to campus staff and students, organize tabletop exercises or large-scale drills, collaborate with local first responders and community partners, and develop or enhance plans for preventing violence on campus by assessing and addressing the mental health needs of students who may be at risk of causing campus violence.

The grants are housed within the Department's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, which supports efforts to create safe schools, respond to crises, prevent drug and alcohol abuse, ensure the health and well being of students, and teach students good citizenship and character. The office also coordinates the Department's efforts in these areas with other federal agencies.

The 2009 grant recipients are listed below:

CALIFORNIA

NEW JERSEY

Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University

Seton Hall University

(Stanford University)

Stanford, CA

\$451,564

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Catholic University of America

Washington, DC

\$491,681

Georgetown University

Washington, DC

\$549,302

FLORIDA

Miami Dade College

Miami, FL

\$499,999

University of Central Florida

Orlando, CA

\$176,245

IDAHO

University of Idaho

Moscow, ID

\$502,148

ILLINOIS

Illinois Community College District #515

(Prairie State College)

Chicago Heights, IL

\$267,090

KANSAS

Johnson County Community College

Overland Park, KS

\$249,094

LOUISIANA

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

South Orange, NJ

\$536,009

NEW YORK

Niagara University

Niagara, NY

\$398,157

Research Foundation of CUNY c/o John Jay College

New York, NY

\$768,334

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota State University

Fargo, ND

\$412,352

OREGON

Southern Oregon University

Ashland, OR

\$250,000

University of Oregon

Eugene, OR

\$474,333

Teaching Research Institute

(Western Oregon University)

Monmouth, OR

\$167,343

PENNSYLVANIA

Community College of Allegheny County

Pittsburgh, PA

\$252,727

RHODE ISLAND

University of Rhode Island

Kingston, RI

\$260,668

Lafayette, LA \$440,286

MASSACHUSSETS

Massachusetts Maritime Academy Buzzards Bay, MA \$218,239

MICHIGAN

Eastern Michigan University Ypsilanti, MI \$490,517

MISSOURI

Missouri State University Springfield, MO \$469,515

MONTANA

The University of Montana Missoula, MT \$499,900

TEXAS

Texas A&M University College Station, TX \$175,756

VIRGINIA

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Blacksburg, VA \$247,419

WASHINGTON

Peninsula College Port Angeles, WA \$255,115

WYOMING

Laramie County Community College Cheyenne, WY \$229,593